

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 83PARIS 028094

CONFIDENTIAL

EXCISE

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO	OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	SS-10	OIC-02	CIAE-00
	DODE-00	II-01	ID-15	NSC-01	NSAE-00	SY-06	HA-08
	L-03	PM-08	PA-01	MCT-02	OMB-01	SYE-00	USIE-00
	SP-02	SNP-01	PRS-01	/O85 W			

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P 291747Z JUL 83

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5836

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

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CORRECTED COPY (PARA 4)

EO. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PTER, FR, TU

SUBJECT: FRENCH DENY NEW INITIATIVE ON ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

1. RESPONDING IN PART TO A MISLEADING PRESS HEADLINE, THE QUAI ON JULY 28 DENIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN ANY NEW INITIATIVES ON THE ISSUE OF RECOGNIZING THE ARMENIAN "GENOCIDE" AS A RESULT OF RECENT BOMBINGS, BUT CONFIRMED THAT THIS HAS BEEN FRANCE'S LONG-STANDING POSITION.

2. FRONT PAGE OF JULY 28-29 LE MONDE CARRIED THE PROMINENT HEADLINE, "FRANCE SEEKS RECOGNITION OF THE 1915 ARMENIAN GENOCIDE: IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE

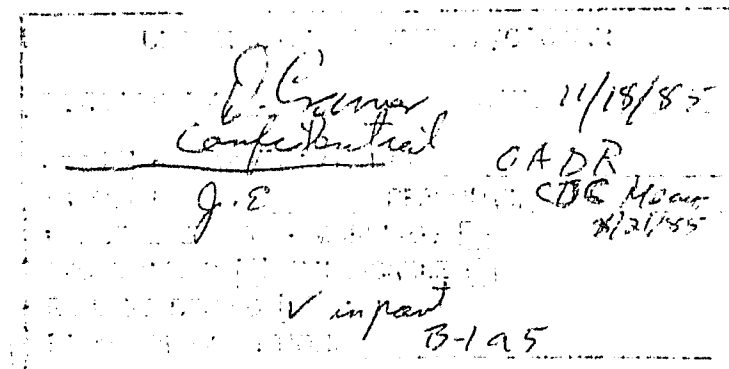
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DEVELOPMENT OF TERRORISM FOLLOWING THE ORLY AND LISBON BOMBINGS, PARIS SEEKS TO BRING TO AN END INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR TWELVE YEARS." ARTICLE ITSELF WAS A FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF FRANCE'S SUPPORT FOR USE OF THE TERM "GENOCIDE" TO CHARACTERIZE THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES OF 1915. NOTING IRONY THAT FRANCE SHOULD BE THE SITE OF THE BOMBINGS WHEN, "AMONG WESTERN NATIONS", IT HAD BEEN THE "SUREST AND MOST CONSTANT ALLY OF THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY," ARTICLE RECALLED THAT

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FRANCE HAD SUPPORTED USE OF THE TERM "GENOCIDE" EVEN BEFORE MAY 1981, BUT HAD DONE SO WITH PARTICULAR VIGOR UNDER THE SOCIALISTS. SINCE MAY 1981, THE FRENCH HAVE CONSISTENTLY USED THE TERM IN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS AND SUPPORTED ITS USE IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. CITING PARTICULARLY THE REPORT PREPARED BY THE UN SUBCOMMISSION ON DISCRIMINATORY MEASURES AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES, ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE TERM "GENOCIDE" HAD BEEN DROPPED AT THE REQUEST OF TURKISH AUTHORITIES, THAT FRENCH SINCE 1981 HAD SOUGHT TO HAVE IT REINSTATED, AND WOULD AGAIN RAISE IT AT THE FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMISSION AUGUST 15 - SEPTEMBER 9. ARTICLE FINALLY NOTES THAT FRENCH POSITION IN NO WAY BLAMES PRESENT TURKISH GOVERNMENT: "PRESENT-DAY TURKEY CAN IN NO WAY BE CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE."

3. QUAI STATEMENT EMPHASIZED THAT NO NEW INITIATIVE HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN RESPONSE TO RECENT BOMBINGS. IT CONFIRMED THAT THE FRENCH DELEGATE TO THE UNHCR AND TO THE SUBCOMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION FOR MINORITIES HAD SUPPORTED AN "UPDATING" OF THE REPORT IN QUESTION, BUT STRESSED THAT THESE POSITIONS PREDATED RECENT EVENTS. IT FURTHER RECALLED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHEYSSON'S RESPONSE TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION OF JULY 11, WHICH EXPRESSED REGRET AT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO RECOGNIZE THE MASSACRES AS GENOCIDE, WHILE NOT HOLDING IT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

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RF:WEB

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Date

AUG 13 1982

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

J.M. Gama

11/20/85

FOR:

Mr. WILLIAM P. CLARK
THE WHITE HOUSE

REFERENCE:

TO: The President

FROM: Br. Ulku Ulgur

DATE: July 29, 1982

SUBJECT: ALLEGED TURKISH GENOCIDE

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: August 9

NSC# 092308

(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

☐ A draft reply is attached.

☐ A draft reply will be forwarded.

☐ A translation is attached.

☒ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

☐ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.

☐ Other..

REMARKS:

Incoming correspondence returned

D/CT: Nantokol (substance)
Cleared: EUR:SE:DGleyson
EUR:JDobbins
PA:GDavis

L. Paul Bremer III
Executive Secretary

EUR:SE:TU:JJJeffrey
8/12/82 x 21562

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BY S/S